Saving Money. In Pima County the cost for a defendant to successfully complete the DTAP program is shown to be less than half the cost of incarceration in Arizona.

Saving Lives. DTAP is changing and saving lives. 65% of participants are successfully participating or have completed the program and leave with life skills and the tools needed to become contributing members of the community.

Reducing Crime. A growing body of research shows that drug treatment can reduce recidivism twice as much as in jail or prison.

“This program saved my life”
Michael K.
DTAP Graduate

“DTAP helped me discover things about myself and learn how to cope with everyday problems and my addiction. I don’t know where I would be without this program.”
Denice H.
DTAP Graduate

“Without everything that DTAP made available to me, I would not have been able to change who I was on the inside. I am eternally grateful for this program.”
Daniel L.
DTAP Graduate

“This program works, I am living proof.”
Shandrelle N.
DTAP Graduate

Drug Treatment Alternative to Prison Program
Barbara LaWall, Pima County Attorney
The Pima County Attorney’s Office
32 N. Stone Avenue
Tucson, Arizona 85701
520-740-5600
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What is DTAP?
The Drug Treatment Alternative to Prison (DTAP) Program enables drug-addicted criminal defendants to plead guilty to an offense and then enter a residential, therapeutic community treatment system for three years as an alternative to a prison sentence.

The Program begins with months of in-patient, residential or intensive outpatient drug treatment followed by wraparound recovery support services managed by a resources specialist, including transitional housing, literacy services, higher education, job training and placement services, and counseling, accompanied by drug testing, probation monitoring and regular court hearings.

Pima County’s DTAP Program is currently the only one of its kind in Arizona.

Whom does DTAP help?
Prison bound felony offenders who have:
- Drug addiction
- Mandatory prison sentence if convicted at trial
- No violent history
- No sex crime history
- Legal status in the U.S.

DTAP has a 100% success rate in placing participants in the workforce.

DTAP saving lives

Daniel L.
DTAP Graduate

Denise H.
DTAP Graduate

Why we need DTAP

✓ DTAP saves lives
Defendants who successfully complete the program have become productive members of the community, with gainful employment, housing, improved health, and repaired relationships with their families, children and loved ones.

Daniel L.
DTAP Graduate

Denise H.
DTAP Graduate

✓ DTAP saves money
The average cost of placing a defendant through the DTAP Program, including the costs of residential treatment, transitional housing, vocational training, counseling, and other support services is $17,266 – less than half the average cost of imprisonment for the average term of 18 months, which would be $47,540.

Daniel L.
DTAP Graduate

Denise H.
DTAP Graduate

✓ DTAP reduces crime
Meanwhile, the recidivism rate for all DTAP participants was less than half that for the control group of individuals who were sent straight to prison. Even including those who ultimately failed the DTAP Program and were sent to prison to complete their consequences, the recidivism rate for DTAP participants was 5.6% compared with the recidivism rate for the control group that were sent straight to prison, which was 12%.

Daniel L.
DTAP Graduate

Denise H.
DTAP Graduate

DTAP participants are more than twice as successful in staying drug free and crime free. DTAP has saved millions of dollars.